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I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with The United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 28, 2000.

 Timothy J. Keefer
 Name

 Signature

DOCKET: CU-2048

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Mark Sievert LARSEN et al)

SERIAL NO: 09/445,033)

) Group Art Unit:

TITLE: METHOD OF OPERATION OF A)
 MULTI-STATION NETWORK)

COMPLETION OF PCT/GB98/01651 filed 05 June 1998)

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Box PCT
 Washington, D.C. 20231

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PETITION TO WITHDRAW NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Notification of Abandonment, a copy of which is attached herewith. It is believed that this notice issued in error.

This U.S. application was filed under 35 USC 371 as a completion of PCT International Application PCT/GB98/01651 filed June 5, 1998 which maintains priority from South African Patent Application 97/5022 filed June 6, 1997. Accordingly, all deadlines under the PCT extend from the priority date of June 6, 1997.

Enclosed is a copy of Form PCT/IPEA/402 issued by the European Patent Office as the International Preliminary Examining Authority indicating that the Demand for Chapter II examination was filed on December 22, 1998. It is noted that this date is prior to the expiration date of nineteen months from the priority date, i.e., January 6, 1999.

It is also noted that the European Patent Office as the IPEA examined the PCT international application and issued the International Preliminary Examination Report dated August 3, 1999. It is pointed out that such action would not have been taken if the Demand for Chapter II examination was not timely filed.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Notice of Abandonment dated January 31, 2000 was issued in error and the U.S. application should be returned to active status.

Should any fee be deemed necessary for this petition, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0400. A duplicate copy of this request is attached.

2/28/2000
Date
uspct/37

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant

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